To: UTC
From: Debbie Anderson, IR
Date: 24 June 2024
Subject: IR Report from WG2 Meeting #71 and SC2 Meeting #29

SC2 Meeting #29 and WG2 Meeting #71 were held in Prague from 10-14 June 2024. The meetings were organized by Jan Kučera and hosted by Charles University. In SC2, nine member bodies and four liaison organizations participated. The recommendations from WG2 are captured in WG2 N5254.

DAM2
Comments on Draft Amendment 2 (DAM2) of ISO/IEC 10646 Sixth Edition were discussed and resolved (see N 5274). The posted DAM2 code charts in N5281 reflect the changes and DAM2 will be synched with Unicode version 16.0. The target dates for Amendment 2 are FDAM2 2025-02-01 and AMD2 2025-05-01.

7th Edition of 10646
Michel Suignard, WG2 Convenor, proposed a project subdivision for a new edition of 10646, the seventh edition (see N5279). This new edition will be developed on a 36-month track and may contain the repertoires of both Unicode versions 17 and 18. The proposed dates for the Seventh Edition are: CD: 2024-08-01, DIS 2026-07-01, FDIS 2027-02-01, IS 2027-07-01.

The preliminary contents of the 7th edition are listed in the WG2 recommendations M71.05-M71.16, closely match those provisionally assigned characters tentatively targeted by RMG for 17.0.
The following should be noted:

- Extension J, with 4300 characters, was included in the repertoire targeted for the 7th edition.

- As recommended by IRG, WG2 agreed to disunify U+5CC0, separately encoding ⿱山田 at U+2B73A at the end of the CJK Unified Ideographs Extension C block. This will involve moving two T-sources and their representative glyphs, and adding a new G-source and its representative glyph, and changing one T-source (see M71.16 in N5254 for details). A font with the T- and G-sources will be provided to the Project Editor for U+2B73A.

- Due to an error, the WG2 Recommendations N5254 missed two characters, U+A7CE..A7CF, which are, however, included in the charts showing the post-16.0 repertoire, N5249.

- The Mongolian character for Manchu, 1879 MONGOLIAN LETTER MANCHU ALTERNATE UE, is listed as a candidate for the 7th edition. The experts from China requested one year for its experts to consider the Mongolian character for Manchu, 1879 MONGOLIAN LETTER MANCHU ALTERNATE UE and so disagreed with the WG2 recommendation M17.11 on this character.

- The experts from India did not comment on the Telugu and Kannada ARCHAIC SHRII characters being considered for the 7th edition repertoire.

Other repertoire elements were targeted for the "bucket", which may include characters not yet targeted for 17.0 by RMG. Other comments:

- Jurchen (N5261R) was presented during the meeting, and a new block of Jurchen radicals was proposed (N5278). (These proposals will be reviewed by the Script Encoding Working Group at its 5 July 2024 meeting.) Note that Jurchen radicals as proposed will have the script value "Common," so they are potentially available for use by other ideographic scripts.
- The experts from Germany presented their proposals, one on English Phonotypic Alphabet (EPA) (N5269) and the other on the characters found in the works of Leibniz (N5277). Unicode members are encouraged to send any comments to the authors of these proposals. The Script Encoding Working Group will engage with the author of the EPA proposal. Experts at WG2 recommended the Leibniz proposal be broken into several smaller, separate proposals.
- Small Seal was discussed, based on two new documents (N5273 and N5272), and the comparison of THX and CCZ by the expert from Japan was noted as completed. Progress on an encoding proposal for Small Seal is expected in the near future, though a font for two sources is still being sought.

IRG Convenorship
Ken Lunde will replace Dr. Lu Qin as IRG Convenor. Peter Constable presented Dr. Lu with a certificate from Unicode in appreciation for her 20 years of service. The certificate enables Dr. Lu to select a character at the gold sponsorship level.

Other information
Dkuug is no longer hosting WG2 documents.

Future meetings:
IRG #63, Seoul, Korea, 2024-10-21/25
IRG #64, Online Zoom (Unicode), 2025-03-17/21
WG2 Meeting #72, 2025-06-23/27, Niigata, Japan (co-located with SC2)
 IRG #65, Guangzhou, China, 2025-10-13/17
IRG #66, Online Zoom (Unicode), 2026-03-16/20
WG2 Meeting #73, 2026-06, Dundee, Scotland, UK or Paris, France (co-located with SC2)

SC2 Matters (with further details in an oral report from Peter Constable)
- Jan Kučera was appointed as the Liaison representative to ISO/TC 46/SC 4, Technical Interoperability and as an SC 2 Representative to ISO 15924 Registration Authority (RA) – Joint Advisory Committee (JAC), replacing Ken Whistler.

- An Ad Hoc was established to study the idea of a "Maintenance Agency" for ISO/IEC 10646 (see L2/23-265). To be decided by the Ad Hoc will be its decision-making process, its internal and external structure, IP rights and publication method of deliverables, jurisdiction of the MA, SC2, WG2 and IRG, quality control of deliverables, and fairness

and openness. The Convenor will be Dr. Shuichi TASHIRO. Participants will be nominated by P-members (maximum of two), liaison organizations (maximum of two), and SC2 Chair, SC2 Committee Manager, WG2 Convenor, and IRG Convenor.

- ISO/IEC 14651:2023 will proceed to DIS processing, once the Project Editor submits text to ITTF (see CD L2/23-282). The ultimate goal, outlined in N5216, is for ISO 14651 to be stabilized, referencing Unicode Technical Standard, UTS #10, Unicode Collation Algorithm.